

# EU's international cooperation on Circular Economy



With the ambition for a climate-neutral Europe by 2050, the EU has communicated its high ambition to lead a global transition to a process resource-efficient and circular economy. The event “EU’s international cooperation on Circular Economy: a systemic response to climate change” illustrates the different pathways for the transition by highlighting experience from the SWITCH-Asia and Switch Africa Green programme. A circular economy has the potential to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation while seizing economic opportunities — this is the inspiration driving the EU-funded SWITCH programmes. Register now November 6th at 9:30 Brussels time. The interactive panel discussion will highlight policy measures, project experiences and lessons learnt from EU funded interventions.

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Speakers include:



**Chantal Marijnissen; Directorate General International, Head of Unit F2:** Chantal **Marijnissen** will highlight the EU's commitments to a carbon-neutral economy with emphasis on the external dimension of the European Circular Economy Actions Plan and the blue print offered by the EU Green Deal.

**Muhammad Irfan Tariq , Ministry of Climate Change Pakistan**, Director General (Environment & Climate Change): The Government of Pakistan has recognised that climate change is a priority area that requires effective action by the Government. Muhammad Irfan will highlight the importance of dealing effectively with climate change. Pakistan has adopted a Pakistan's Vision 2025 and a National Climate Change Policy and has adopted the Sustainable Development Goals as part of our national development agenda, within which climate action is an integral part.



**Jana Zilkova, SWITCH-Asia Project Recycling Building Materials**, Head of Mission (Country Representative) Caritas Czech Republic in Mongolia: Buildings and their construction together account for 36 percent of global energy use and 39 percent of energy-related carbon dioxide emissions annually (UNEP). Jana Zilkova, project manager of the [Recycling Building Materials](#) project will share how the project facilitated a secondary materials market for construction materials – significantly facilitating emission reduction.



**Raymond Okrofu Ateghi**, Environment And Renewable Energy Expert at Safi Sana, part of the [Switch Africa Green Project Green Biogas Ghana](#): Together with energy efficiency, renewable energy can address about 55% of total CO<sub>2</sub> emission. In 2017, Safisana, opened the first recycling plant in Ashaiman, Ghana, serving a settlement of 250.000 people. The plant succeeded in establishing the first waste to energy plant in West Africa – contributing to emission reduction. Raymond Okrofu Ateghi will report how Safisana developed a circular business model for local

waste treatment. Their recycling plants turn organic waste and faecal sludge into high value products: renewable energy, organic fertilizer and irrigation water.



**Katharine Thoday, Principal Environment Specialist, Environment Thematic Group: Sustainable Development & Climate Change Department at the Asian Development Bank** will discuss how to finance the transition to a circular economy. She will highlight the role of financial institutions to enable the transition to a circular economy with a focus on climate action.